

Appendix 6

Floodplains Draft Statement of Findings

DRAFT
FLOODPLAIN
STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

Environmental Assessment
Anacostia Riverwalk Trail
Anacostia Park
National Capital Parks-East
National Park Service
Washington, D.C.

Anacostia Park is a federally owned facility located in the southeast and northeast quadrants of Washington, D.C. It is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places. The park is on both shores of the Anacostia River and is administered by National Capital Parks-East, a unit of the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Areas of Anacostia Park lie within the 100-year floodplain of the Anacostia River, as seen in Figure 3-8 in the environmental assessment. The purpose of the trail is to provide access to and along the river, which would enhance appreciation of the river resource through visitor experience and interpretation. Therefore, there are no alternatives outside the floodplain for developing the trail.

Due to the large floodplain area and its topography the encroachment potential of the project is anticipated to be negligible. The trail footprint would be as narrow as possible and would be constructed at-grade and conform to existing slopes to maintain drainage patterns. Permeable pavement is being explored and will be utilized as feasible.

The proposed trail and associated structures would perform hydraulically in a manner equal to or greater than the existing structure, and backwater surface elevations are not expected to increase. Boardwalk areas would allow flood waters to pass unobstructed through the pilings.

There will be little or no excavation. The conduit for electricity for lighting will only require a small amount of trenching, and interpretive and other signs would require minor ground

disturbance. Plans for this work will be submitted for review by the District of Columbia Department of Health, Environmental Health Administration, Watershed Protection Division to determine the appropriate permit requirements.

The Anacostia River is slow flowing and floods gradually. There would be no added risks to the safety of park visitors and employees, and there would not be a significant change in the potential for interruption or termination of emergency service or emergency evacuation routes as the portions of the trail located within the 100-year floodplain are not through roads.

Therefore, the construction of any of the alternative trail alignments would have no significant impacts on natural and beneficial floodplain values.

RECOMMENDED:

_____ Superintendent National Capital Parks-East	_____ Date
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CONCURRED:

_____ Water Resources Division Washington Office	_____ Date
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CONCURRED:

_____ Environmental Compliance Officer National Capital Regional Office	_____ Date
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CONCURRED:

_____ Safety Officer National Capital Regional Office	_____ Date
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APPROVED:

_____ Regional Director National Capital Regional Office	_____ Date
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